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April 10, 2002

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DUPLICATE COPY

Via Facsimile: 312-353-9176 and Messenger Delivery

Mr. Steven J. Faryan
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region Five
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re: Downers Grove Groundwater Investigation

Mr. Faryan:

This is in response to your letter dated April 4, 2002, addressed to Ames Supply Company in care of me, requesting access to 2537 Curtiss Street, in Downers Grove, Illinois, for the USEPA to perform certain investigation and testing of potential environmental contamination in the Downers Grove area. Please note that Ames Supply Company does not own the property at 2537 Curtiss Street. Rather, I spoke with you on behalf of the property owner, White Lake Building Corp. Also, please note that, contrary to the statements in your letter, I have never spoken with Mr. Thomas Krueger of your office.

Let me first state that White Lake is willing to cooperate with the USEPA, but, as I previously informed you, would like to minimize activity on the property since it currently is listed for sale. White Lake is concerned about the basis for, and the scope of, USEPA's request for access and testing since it appears that USEPA's information about the property and the prior investigation by White Lake is incomplete and potentially in error.

During our conversation on April 4, 2002, we discussed some of the points on which I believe USEPA is in error. Most importantly, however, you informed me that the latest environmental report in your possession is dated September 14, 2001. There are two subsequent hydrogeologic reports, dated December 7, 2001, and January 31, 2002, that show the results of further testing and that may address USEPA's concerns. But in response to my informing you of these reports, you stated that USEPA still wanted access to the property even though you had not

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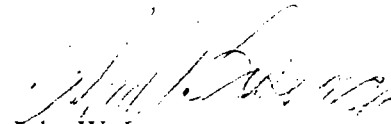
reviewed the most current reports. This does not seem reasonable, since the reports, at the least, may minimize the scope of any activity or testing that USEPA may seek to perform.

By copy of this letter via messenger delivery, I am providing copies of these reports to you. Please review them, or have your hydrologist review them, and contact me if USEPA still seeks access to the property and/or will be modifying the scope of testing that we previously discussed.

Please inform me what other properties in the Ellsworth Industrial Park are being tested by the USEPA or the IEPA as part of the Downers Grove ground water investigation. Also, please inform me whether what you refer to as the Downers Grove "site" has been defined, and whether it is listed as a Superfund site. If so, please tell me when it was listed.

Sincerely,

LEWIS, OVERBECK & FURMAN



John W. Loseman

JWL:jm

Copy via messenger delivery, with enclosures.

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